

Lawyers - 1935

California

## A NEGRO LAWYER IS RADIO STAR IN LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES.—(ANP)—Deputy District Attorney Charles Matthews began a series of weekly radio broadcasts titled, "The Jury's Verdict", over station KFIAC here last week.

The program is a dramatization of trials held in the Supreme court of Los Angeles county under the administration of District Attorney Buron Fitts. Matthews, brilliant young law graduate from the University of California with a J. D. degree, is the only Negro deputy in the District Attorney's office.

Lawyers - 1935

Georgia.

**THADDEUS B. EUBANKS**

**ADMITTED TO THE BAR**

**THE FIRST TO PASS THE BAR IN THE FIRST ATTEMPT**

Thaddeus B. Eubanks, Esq., was admitted to the practice of law in the courts of Georgia, by Hon John Rourke, Jr., in Chatham County Superior Court, Thursday, December 26th. He was presented to the court by Attorney Wm. H. Hopkins.

Attorney Eubanks is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Hammond Eubanks of 726 East 38th Street.

He received his elementary education under the tutelage of Mrs. Belle Andrews, and in local public schools. He is a graduate of Schofield Institute, Aiken, S. C., and the Georgia State Industrial College.

Attorney Eubanks was the only colored candidate to pass the examination at this time and passed on his first attempt. Throughout the state only 56 persons out of the 120 attempting were successful in passing the examination. In Savannah the candidates were unusually successful and seven out of eight passed and have been admitted to practice.

Attorney Eubanks paid a tribute to Attorney Wm. H. Hopkins in a letter of which we quote in part:

"I know that this information will be of interest to you. In my rejoicing at this hour, I pause to pay tribute and express gratitude to you, whose untiring efforts in the past few months contributed so largely to this success. For in spite of the four years during which I devoted the choicest portions of my time, thought and efforts toward an understanding and appreciation of the care of corpus juris, without your experienced counsel, unremitting questioning and sane advice concerning the maze of Georgia Legislation and Jurisprudence which so easily challenges, frightens, and bewilders the neophyte, my passing the examination on the first attempt would not only have been unlikely but would have been impossible."



Lawyers-1935.

Illinois.

## **SLATER NAMED CORPORATION COUNSEL IN CHICAGO**

*Beach Dispatch*

CHICAGO, Ill., Nov. 14.—(ANP)—Frederick W. "Duke" Slater was named assistant corporation counsel here Thursday morning by Mayor Edward J. Kelly. The former star football player of Iowa and the Cardinal professional team, has been practicing law here for several years and his recent appointment has been hailed by his friends as recognition of his legal talents, which heretofore have been overshadowed by his feats on the gridiron.

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT



Lawyers-1935

National Bar Association

# NATIONAL BAR ACTS AGAINST MITCHELL BILL

Chicago, Ill.  
Association Refers to Act

As Being Toothless

And Ineffective  
8-10-35

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 9. Close on the heels of a vitriolic attacks on the Mitchell bill in Congress for an Industrial commission on Negro Affairs by Former Dean Charles H. Houston on the floor of the convention, the National Bar association last Saturday adopted a resolution flatly condemning the measure as unfit for passage.

Going on record as being definitely and unalterably opposed to the bill, the organization characterized the legislation as being toothless, ineffective and absolutely worthless as a means of improving the cause of the Race in this country.

Passes Unanimously

The resolution formed a part of the report of the resolutions committee, headed by Attorneys C. Francis Stradford, Chicago, Jesse Hestlip, Toledo, Ohio, and Dean Houston of Washington.

Without a dissenting vote, the resolution swept through to adoption. Dean Houston, who had led in attack on the bill, was scathing in his denunciation. The resolution is as follows:

"The National Bar association opposes the Mitchell bill for an Industrial Commission on Negro Affairs in its present form, because it is not restricted to industrial affairs, and does not provide the commission with sufficient power to make its proposed work effective; specifically the commission lacks the power to subpoena witnesses and compel the production of books and records."

See More Buck-Passing

Attorney Houston, in his address went further and described the bill as the vehicle for creating another bureau to which matters vitally affecting the race can be referred and

possibly pigeonholed.

"It seems to me," said Houston, "that such a commission will merely offer another resort for the buck-passing propensities of administrations which seek to duck issues on problems concerning the Race." The assertion was vociferously applauded.

Debate U. S. Court Ruling

Considerable debate was caused over a resolution "disapproving the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the case of Grovey vs. Townsend, decided April 1, 1935, holding that the Texas Primary was a private election and that the exclusion of qualified Negro Democratic voters violated no constitutional guaranties under the 14th and 15th amendments." The resolution, "calls upon the Congress of the United States for immediate legislation protecting the Negro Citizens' right of suffrage under the 14th and 15th amendments from any abridgement direct or indirect on the basis of color; further demands the vigorous enforcement of such laws by the department of justice and the federal courts."

The resolution was adopted over strong opposition, Attorneys Webster L. Porter, Knoxville; A. T. Walden, Atlanta, and others taking the position that the association should not go on record as "disapproving" the decision. A compromise was sought when it was proposed to change the word "disapprove," to "deplore" or "regret," but the effort failed, and the resolution was adopted as submitted.

## LAWYERS ELECT LAWRENCE HEAD

OF NATIONAL BAR  
Chicago, Ill.

Chicagoan Is Victor By

Three Votes  
The Defender  
By JULIUS J. ADAMS

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 9. —With the election of George W. Lawrence of Chicago as president by a scant three-vote majority over Sidney R. Redmond of St. Louis, the 11th annual convention of the National Bar association came to a close here late Saturday afternoon.

It was a stormy session which addresses and drew prolonged ap frequently became unwieldy, that clause from the audience.

saw Lawrence, for six years secretary, elevated to head the organization. President E. Washington Rhodes of Philadelphia, was often confused as partisans, playing politics like Halle Selassie and Il Duce, battled for points of vantage. But the redoubtable executive, serving the last few hours of his administration, stuck to his guns. He was avowedly a Redmond man but the lashes and attacks by the machine, built around C. Francis Stradford, forestalled every steam-roller attempt which perked up from time to time.

Fine Convention

From a standpoint of achievement the 11th annual meeting, veteran members of the association declare, was the best the organization has ever held.

Delegates began arriving early Tuesday, and by Thursday morningland when the first session was openedWelch W. Va. was vigorously applauded on the comprehensiveness of the report, which called on the association to continue its drive for legislation against lynching and

The convention moved along onfor legislation against lynching and schedule for the first day, with wel-for come address by citizens and off-to cials of Nashville.

Northerners, in the South for the first time, and unfamiliar with the opinions of the whites exceptand Ethiopia and urged President those that sweep northward on the wave of a lynch orgy, expressed themselves as deeply impressed with the tenor of the speeches of the white officials, many of whom were judges who addressed the convention.

President Rhodes' annual address consumed hardly more than 10 minutes, and was followed by discussions led by Attorneys Charles J. Calloway, Kansas City, and Violetta N. Anderson, Chicago.

In her remarks, Attorney Anderson said, in part, "In the matter of civil rights our colored citizenry has not pressed sufficiently for adjudication, matters which deal with their civil rights. This is largely true, but I have noted an ever increasing number of evidences in the courts of Illinois, particularly, of an awakened and progressive interest in civil rights."

Taylor in Address

Attorney Houston's speech on the "Proposed Legal Attacks on Discrimination Against Negroes in Public Education," was masterfully delivered. He outlined some of the means of escape the Race might employ from the inequalities now imposed upon it.

John P. Davis of the Joint Recovery committee, scheduled to deliver an address at the morning session Friday did not appear. Atty. Euclid Louis Taylor of Chicago, former first vice president of the National Bar Association, and at present a director, delivered an address Friday afternoon on International phases of extradition. It was one of the young lawyer's most brilliant

Urges Honest Lawyers  
Attorney Redmond, St. Louis led an open discussion of "How to Build a Law Practice," in which he insisted the first requisite to building a successful law practice is to be honest, and work so as to win the confidence of the public. He urged lawyers to take an interest in the civic and religious affairs of their respective communities.

Perhaps the feature of the convention was an address on "Constitutional Guaranties and New Deal Objectives," at the mass meeting of Friday night at St. John AME church, 8th avenue and Cedar street with Attorney Jesse Hestlip of Toledo, Ohio, former president of the National Bar Association, as the principal speaker.

Atty. Georgia Jones Ellis, Chicago chairman of the standing and convention committee, which included Chester K. Gillespie, Cleveland and Fleming W. Jones, when the first session was openedWelch W. Va. was vigorously applauded on the comprehensiveness of the report, which called on the association to continue its drive for legislation against lynching and

Scores Mexican Situation

The committee on international law took up the question of Italy and Ethiopia and urged President Roosevelt to bring pressure on Il Duce to submit to arbitration. It scored the Mexican restriction policy against Race citizens, and asked for a resolution requesting the President and the attorney general to appoint a qualified Race lawyer to fill the vacancy now existing in the district court of the Virgin Island. Atty. Richard E. Westbrook of Chicago was on the committee, whose report was read by Atty. William H. Houston, Sr.

Attorney Gillespie, chairman, and Attorney Ellis secretary directed the work of a special committee which drafted a resolution of greetings to Gov. Hill McAlister for his action in preventing a lynching in Shelbyville by calling out the militia. The greetings were presented by the committee in person, with Attorney Gillespie as spokesman.

The James C. Napier lawyers' association, of which Walter S. Walker is president, was host to the convention and performed notably in that capacity. Atty. James C. Napier, an old and distinguished citizen of Nashville, was the most honored individual at the convention. Hardly a local speaker and many of them from distant parts failed to pay tribute to the "grand old man."

Nashville, Tenn. Tennessean  
August 2, 1935

## NEGRO ATTORNEYS HEAR JUDGE GREEN

National Association Convenes Here for Three-Day Meet.

Chief Justice Grafton Green of the Tennessee Supreme court told negro lawyers here yesterday afternoon attending the convention of the National Bar Association the alarm sounded by some persons today that the nation is headed for destruction through a general breaking - down of the constitution is unfounded.

Judge Green expressed his confidence in the durability of the constitution, and pointed to a nationwide increasing respect for the United States Supreme court as a significant fact of the day.

The chief justice delivered his brief address in the auditorium of the Morris Memorial building, where approximately 150 delegates of the negro national lawyers' organization opened their annual three-day convention here Thursday morning at 9 o'clock. Webster L. Porter of Knoxville responded to Judge Green's address.

The convention was convened by Walter S. Walker, president of the James C. Napier Lawyers' Association of Nashville, hosts to the visiting delegates. E. Washington Rhodes of Philadelphia, president of the national association, presided. The visiting delegates were welcomed to Nashville by Jack Keefe, assistant city attorney.

Addresses will be delivered this morning by John Davis of Washington, D. C.; Scipio A. Jones of Little Rock, Ark., and Raymond Pace Alexander of Philadelphia.

Chancellor R. B. C. Howell of Nashville is scheduled to address the convention delegates this afternoon. This afternoon's concluding address will be made by Richard D. Evans of Waco, Tex.

Following Judge Green yesterday afternoon, President Rhodes gave his annual address urging his fellow lawyers to fight for the rights which he said were denied negro citizens.

President Rhodes was followed by Charles H. Houston of Washington, who scored discrimination against negroes in public education, declaring the negro was "economically exploited, politically ignored, and socially ostracized."

At the morning session Albert Ewing, president of the Nashville Bar and Library Association, made a vigorous appeal for the states' rights provision of the constitution

and condemned the present activities of the national government, which he interpreted as interfering with these rights. The convention will continue with morning and afternoon sessions through Saturday.



Nashville, Tenn. **Tennessean**  
August 2, 1935

### The Negro Lawyers.

Three hundred negro lawyers, members of the National Bar Association, are in session in Nashville the latter part of this week.

They represent one of society's higher callings, for the contribution of the lawyer to fair and impartial justice is no small one.

The negro race in America today is developing its own leaders. In every field of endeavor members of their race are emerging from the general level, performing service of outstanding importance and standing as an inspiration to younger members of their group and as living proof that the door to opportunity is not closed to the ambitions and industrious negro boy and girl because of their color.

They are welcomed to Nashville, not only by the white community, but also by local members of their own race, who have achieved places of national importance and who are respected by their white fellow citizens.

Nashville, Tenn. **Banner**  
August 4, 1935

## Negro Lawyers Name Officers At Session End

W. S. Walker, Nashville,  
Vice-President — Ask  
Work in Place of Dole

George W. Lawrence of Chicago who has been secretary of the National Bar Association, organization of Negro lawyers in the United States and which has been holding its annual convention in Nashville, was elected president of the association during the closing hours of the convention yesterday.

Vice presidents elected were: Harry Capehart of West Virginia, Chester K. Gillespie, of Cleveland, O., candidate for election to the bench as municipal court judge, and W. S. Walker, Nashville attorney.

Mrs. Georgia Ellis of Chicago was elected secretary of the organization and A. F. Walden of Atlanta, Ga., was elected treasurer. Mrs. Ellis has the distinction of being one of the twenty-seven Negro women who have been admitted to practice law in courts of the various States. In addition to being a practicing attorney in Illinois, Mrs. Ellis has served as an assistant judge of the Chicago Domestic Relations Court for five years.

During the closing hours of the convention the organization went on record as opposed to war between Italy and Ethiopia, the attitude of Mexico toward the American Negro with respect to passport visas, and disapproved of the verdict of the Superior Court of Texas in the primary election case otherwise known as Grover vs Townsend.

The Negro lawyers also urged the

prompt presentation to the courts of North Carolina the refusal of officials to register Negroes for the 1934 general election.

Earlier in the day the convention adopted a resolution to Governor McAllister commending him and his subordinates for their action in preventing the lynching of E. K. Harris, Shelbyville Negro youth charged with criminal assault. The resolution was delivered by a committee of the association.

The committee charged with framing legislation recommended that the practice of granting emergency relief, or direct relief, to Negroes be discontinued in favor of work. This recommendation is to be transmitted to Harry L. Hopkins, director of the Works Progress Administration, and Secretary Ickes of the Interior Department. It is the feeling of the legal lights of the Negro race that the "dole" is detrimental to the economic progress of the Negro.

Nashville, Tenn. **Tennessean**  
August 3, 1935

## NEGRO ATTORNEYS CLOSE MEET TODAY

Justice Cook and DeWitt Will  
Speak Before the  
Association.

The National Bar Association for Negro Attorneys will close its convention here today with the election of officers.

Associate Justice William L. Cook of the Tennessee supreme court will address the delegates prior to the election. Following the election the association will be addressed by Associate Judge John H. DeWitt of the Tennessee court of appeals.

George W. Lawrence, secretary for the association, from Chicago, said that the association as a whole is grateful for the kindness and consideration they have received from the officials and people of this city.

Walter S. Walker, president of the Nashville and vice-president of the National Bar Association, said in an address yesterday that in his nine years of practice in this city, he has been treated with every consideration and that it was his belief that "in no city of the union would a colored attorney receive better or kinder treatment from the bench and bar, than right here in Nashville."

During this convention there have been several open discussions on the negro's practice of law in the South and Walker has held that instead of being discriminated against, the colored lawyer is given every chance and treated with every consideration. He said his practice is confined to chancery court.

# National Bar Association a Little Pink but Refuses to Turn RED

## Commend Governor Who Shot Down Lynchers but Hands Off Sharecroppers

By RALPH MATTHEWS

The National Bar Association, willing to turn a little pink but it will not turn red.

That is the idea that those who attended the national convention got at Nashville, last week, after the body turned down a motion that smacked of Communistic backing when the resolution committee brought in a number of measures for their endorsement.

The body commended the NAACP for the work it has been doing in behalf of the race but would not go down the line with Dr. Charles H. Houston, former dean of Howard University's law school and now legal adviser of the NAACP, when he sought their endorsement of the fight to help the Arkansas sharecroppers.

### Rap Court

The lawyers adopted a resolution expressing their disapproval of the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Texas Primary case, which held that the Texas Primary was a private election and that the exclusion of qualified colored Democratic voters violated the Constitutional guarantees under the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments.

It took considerable argument to get this measure across because a great number looked upon it as too much affrontery to criticize the Supreme Court as an organization.

### Visit Governor

A delegation representing the body also called on Governor Hill McAllister and commended him for his courage in ordering out the militia against the mob which stormed a jail in his state last spring, bent on lynching.

The delegation also sent its

commendation to the soldiers themselves, declaring that they realized how hard it was for an all-white militia to stick to orders and open their guns on their neighbors when they knew that public sentiment was against such action.

They did these things in the deep South, but when Dr. Houston suggested that they offer legal aid to a white man who was under arrest for attempting to organize white and colored sharecroppers to rebel against their overlords, on the ground that the oppressed of both races should wipe out racial differences and stick together, the lawyers balked.

To let it be known that they favored such a move smacked of Communism, they believed, and so they voted thumbs down.

The opposition came from the Southern attorneys led by T. Webster Porter, Knoxville lawyer and editor.

"If we endorse this plan," he pointed out, "we will alienate our good white friends in the South and good men on the bench who have favored us in the past will be turned against us."

Other Southern lawyers agreed with him and the motion failed. The lawyers turned pink, but not red.

Josiah F. Henry, Jr., local attorney and a former office-holder in the association, admitted that the body was growing conservative but refused to reveal how he voted on the share-crop question.

Clarke L. Smith, another Baltimore attorney, admitted that he joined the Southerners in condemning the resolution.

"I was for the measure," he said, "as I thought it was a good move, but when I saw all the Southern lawyers against it I decided that we had no right to go down in their territory and saddle on them something that would cause them hardships and embarrassment. After all, they have to live there and they know better what is good for them than we do."



Lawyers — 1935

Nebraska

## Death Claims First Negro Nebraska Woman Lawyer

*Call*  
LINCOLN, Neb. — Miss Zanyte H. Hill, the first Negro woman lawyer in the state of Nebraska died in Jackson, Miss., Thursday, April 4. She had been in a hospital there two weeks for an operation. *4-19-35*  
Because of illness, Miss Hill had been forced to give up her position as legal counsel for the Woodmen of Union insurance company in Hot Springs.



Lawyers - 1935

New York World Telegram

FEB 20 1935

# Backed by Law Book Arsenal, Negro Litigant Opens Frontal Attack on Sales Tax and NRA

Walter N. Smith, 50, a Negro who boasts a smattering of the law and a whole arsenal of law books, isn't content with just kicking about the sales tax—he plans to DO something about it.

He isn't afraid to tackle the Supreme Court, either, for today he has an injunction suit pending which would restrain Mayor La Guardia and the City of New York from collecting the 2 per cent tax.

Furthermore, he has a scheme up his sleeve to keep the New York Edison Co. from adding it to his monthly bill. Finally, he has another suit, brought in the United States District Court a year ago and still pending, to restrain General Hugh S. Johnson from enforcing the National Recovery Act.

"No, I'm not a member of the bar," he admitted last night in his two-room apartment at 115 W. 60th St. "You see, I want to get these suits off my mind before I bother about exams."

From the wall the engraved countenances of the Supreme Court Justices, Vintage 1911 (from the days before the Constitution was "gone"), looked down benevolently on Smith.

"Take this sales tax," he continued, patting the head of his terrier, Prince. "It doesn't affect the rich man because he can offset it against his income. But it puts an awful burden on the person that has no income. It's unconstitutional and inimical to the public welfare."

"It's . . . it's . . ." he searched for a suitably scathing simile. "It's the most discriminating thing the Municipal Assembly has had since 1853."

"What did it have in 1853?" he was asked.

"Strike that out," he said with a gesture that would have done credit to a Darrow. "Strike that out. I'm going to use it in my argument."

Smith's legal training came from a summer course at Columbia University, a mail-order course from LaSalle Extension University and years of poring over the 600 law books which overflow his room.

"I've got lots more than this," he apologized with a deprecating sweep of his hand. "The fellows that moved me here were careless

and I've had to send some of them to the bindery."

Resides his NRA and sales tax suits, he has four pending in the Court of Appeals and four in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court.

His legal record in court is clear—no victories, but then no defeats, just ten suits pending.

**YONKERS, N. Y.  
RECORD**

**OCT 27 1935  
Colored Lawyer  
To Speak Here  
For Fogarty**

Taxes and Assessment Commissioner Hubert Delany of New York City will come to town Monday night to be a speaker at the Douglas Club, Colored, in the Third Ward.

Delany was associated with the office of U. S. District Attorney from 1927 to 1933, serving under U. S. Attorneys Charles H. Tuttle and George Medalie. Former Mayor Fogarty, now nominee for City Judge, was associated with that office.

Born in Raleigh, N. C., Delany went to New York when a boy and was graduated from City College in 1923 and in 1926 he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws from N. Y. U. From 1923 to 1926 he was teacher in Public School 5, New York City.

After leaving the office of U. S. Attorney, he entered the office of G. J. Mintzer, also formerly of U. S. Attorney's Office, in New York. He resides at 200 Bradhurst Ave., New York City, with his mother, Mrs. Manny J. Delany, who was teacher in St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, for 40 years.

His father was Right Rev. Henry Beard Delany, Principal Anglican Bishop of North and South

Hubert Delany's five brothers and four sisters also are in professions: the brothers, a naturalist, surgeon, lawyer, mortician and dentist. One of his sisters is a dentist, another a teacher in Damrosch School of Music, one is a teacher in Roosevelt High School, New York and another a teacher in Public School 119 Manhattan.

Colored citizens, men and women, from all parts of the city will hear Delany tomorrow night.



Lawyers-1935

Raleigh, N. C. Observer  
February 22, 1935

## NEGRO ATTORNEYS HOLD STATE MEETING

Problems of Negro Lawyers  
in State Considered From  
Many Angles

Durham, Feb. 22.—Approximately 100 Negro lawyers from various parts of the State met today in the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance company building to discuss the problems of the Negro.

The meeting was held under the sponsorship of the Durham Negro Bar Association and the Negro corporations of the city. The welcoming address was delivered by C. C. Spaulding, head of the Mutual Life; and other addresses were made by R. L. McDougall, H. M. Micheaux, R. N. Harris and A. Moore Shearing.

The topics discussed included "The Future of the Negro Under the New Deal," by Ralph O'Hara of New Bern, and John A. Pope of Greensboro; "The Negro Taking Active Part in Suffrage in North Carolina," by W. G. Hamilton of Asheville, and W. Avery Jones of Winston-Salem.

The subjects discussed pertaining to the profession included "The Negro Lawyer's Attitude on Raising of Systematic Exclusion of Jurors from North Carolina" by P. H. Bell of Plymouth, and C. J. Cates of Durham; "The Negro Lawyer's Part in Civic Activities in the State," by J. S. Browser of Charlotte, and Fred J. Carnege of Raleigh.

PRESIDENT



F. W. Williams, Winston-Salem attorney who was elected first president of the old North State Bar Association recently formed at Durham, N. C. Attorney Williams also holds the position of Regional Manager of the National Bar Association, supervising the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer  
February 23, 1935

## NEGRO LAWYERS OF N. C. FORM STATE-WIDE BODY

DURHAM, Feb. 23.—(P)—Negro lawyers of the state meeting here today formed a state-wide association to be known as the old North State Bar association, which will be an affiliate of the National Negro Bar association.

Twenty-one of the 27 negro lawyers of the state attended the organization meeting. F. W. Williams, Winston-Salem, was elected president; M. Hugh Thompson, Durham, vice president; Curtis Todd, Raleigh, secretary; and H. O. Bright, Winston-Salem, treasurer.